

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of this application and the indication that claims 1-7, 15-21 and 24-29 contain allowable subject matter (subject only to an obviousness-type double-patenting rejection). Claims 22 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Addressing the rejection of claims 22 and 23 first, Applicant has amended claim 22 to correct an inconsistency with the use of the term "second PPI" (changing one instance of this term to "first PPI"). The Office Action also invited the undersigned to indicate where the specification supports the claimed secondary analysis at a third PPI. The undersigned directs the Examiner's attention to at least the discussion beginning on page 9, line 21. There the specification describes how the interim analysis may be repeated at different PPIs (selected by the user), which would be at a higher resolution than the first interim analysis, but a lower resolution than the final analysis. The specification uses the term "new interim PPI" which corresponds to the claimed "third PPI". Accordingly, Applicant submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph should be withdrawn.

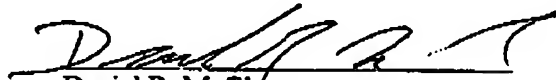
Claims 1-5, 7, 15-21, and 24-26 were tentatively rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting. Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn, as being inconsistent with the position taken by the Examiner in the parent application (now U.S. Patent 6,674,901). In this regard, claim 1 of issued patent 6,674,901 corresponded to claim 8 of the parent application. During the prosecution of the parent application, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7 and 15-19 (which are re-presented in this application), while allowing claims 8-14. At that time, the undersigned argued that claims 1-7 and 15-19 should be allowed along with claims 8-14. However, the Examiner rejected that argument and maintained that these claims (1-7 and 15-19 were patently different than the allowed claims 8-14), which forced the Applicant to cancel those claims in the parent

application and file the present continuation application. The present double-patenting rejection represents an inconsistent position with that taken by the Examiner, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is believed that no extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Company's deposit account no. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



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